(c) if so, what action Government propose to take or have taken so far against the indicted BCCL officials in each case and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Chairman cum Managing Director, Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. is a Presidential appointee and action. if any, is taken by the Ministry of Coal in the case of such appointees.

(c) After due examination, Government have decided that no action may be taken against the present CMD, BCCL on the basis of the report of the Governmental Committee. As for other officials, one General Manager and three Agents have been removed from service, while six Agents have been exonerated of the charges against them. Action in the case of remaining indicated officers is in progress at various stages.

New Guidelines under MPs Local Area Development Scheme

*168. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY :
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new guidelines or instruction have been issued about the M.Ps. Local Area Development Scheme:

(b) if so, what are those guidelines;

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not issuing such guidelines; and

(d) in case of a disput between the Collector and the M.P. whether any particular scheme falls within the scope of this scheme or not, who will finally decide the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The revised guidelines are under consideration.

Joint Venture for Coal Production

*169. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of foreign or Indian companies who have offered for joint venture in India for coal production;

(b) when these offers were made; and

(c) what is Government's response thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Consequent to the amendment of Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 in June 1993 allowing private sector participation in coal mining for power generation. Coal India Limited (CIL) have received proposals from following foreign/Indian parties who have shown interest for forming joints ventures with CIL for coal mining :—

(1) Joy Manufacturing Company.
(2) International Longwall (India) Ltd.
(3) White Industries Australia Ltd.
(4) BHP-Minerals International Inc. Corporation.
(5) Indo-Gulf Fertilizers & Chemicals Ltd.
(6) Hindalco Industries Ltd.
(7) MM Bhagat & Company.
(8) Blackhill Minerals Phy, Ltd.
(9) Eastern Minerals & Trading Agency.
(10) CESC Ltd.
(11) M/s. Nippon Denro Ispat Ltd.

These offers were received during the years 1993 and 1994.

(c) Government has not approved any joint venture proposal for coal mining.

Visit of Chinese Delegation

*170. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chinese delegation that visited India recently, including the one accompanying the Chinese Defence Minister, stressed on steps to improve Sino-Indian co-operation on trade investment, science and technology and manpower development in India;

(b) if so, the main proposals made in this regard; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) In June 1994, HE Mme Wu Yi, Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation of China led a delegation on visit to India, which made proposals including on steps to improve Sino-Indian co-operation in trade, investment, and science &